



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

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USDA Celebrates 150th Anniversary



Bob Nichols/USDA

Secretary Vilsack, Mika Brzezinski, and Former Congressman Joe Scarborough discuss the history and importance of agriculture at USDA's 150th Anniversary celebration.

On May 15, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack joined a variety of special guests at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to commemorate the agency's 150th anniversary and its extensive work on behalf of rural America as well as global agriculture.

The anniversary event was hosted by former Congressman Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski of MSNBC's "Morning Joe," and featured Rolling Stones keyboardist Chuck Leavell and NFL stars Art Monk and LaVar Arrington. Secretary Vilsack **reiterated USDA's commitment** to "continue to help provide a safe, ample food supply for our nation and the world." President Abraham Lincoln signed legislation establishing USDA on May 15, 1862.

President Obama issued a proclamation commending USDA for its leadership on agriculture, natural resources, safe and nutritious food, and research. The President noted USDA's work "to develop and expand markets for agricultural products, grow our businesses and our economy, and protect the quality of our food supply and our environment."

[Learn more](#) about the 150th Anniversary event and ***[follow USDA on Twitter](#)***.